

SN 09/879,709
Attn: Justin Fischer
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In the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

U.S. Patent Application S.N. 09/879,709

Title: Tire Inflated With A Plurality Of Balls

Filing Date: June 12, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Justin R. Fischer

Certificate of Transmittal By Facsimile

I hereby certify that this paper is being sent by facsimile transmission to FAX No. 703-872-9311 on Nov. 24, 2003. Name CAROLYN LAUGHERTY.
Signature Carolyn Laugherty Date November 24, 2003.

Attn: Justin Fischer
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22513-1450

Dear Sir:

As we discussed over the phone today, when we submitted the Amendment on October 24, 2003, our intention was to be requesting continued examination (RCE), and we intended that the accompanying amendment should be used for the purposes of the continued examination, with the previously submitted amendment, which had been submitted August 8, 2003, not being entered for purposes of the RCE.

I understand that, since we did not submit the standard Patent Office form transmittal letter for an RCE, there was some confusion, and the Patent Office did not credit the payment that we submitted for the RCE as we had intended. However, Ms. Streater has said that she will correct the crediting of the payment, so the money will be credited as follows:

- 5385 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
55 One month extension
43 One additional independent claim over the four that were already paid for
9 One additional claim over the total number that had previously been paid for
1 For the increase in cost of an independent claim that had been paid for in August.
(I realize that this last charge of \$1 was not necessary, but I was trying to be on the safe side.)

\$493 Total

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The rule governing RCEs, 37 CFR 1.114, requires only that we file a submission in response to the Office Action and the fee for the RCE, which we did on October 24, 2003. The rule does not require any special cover sheet or special language to be used in the request, so, despite the fact it would have been better if we had used the RCE transmittal form in order to avoid any confusion (and we certainly wish we had done so), we are in compliance with the requirements for the RCE. Now that the fee is being properly credited, we trust that our submission will be treated as a Request for Continued Examination under that section and that you will continue the examination accordingly. If the Patent Office does not think that we have properly complied with the rules for the RCE for some reason, please let us know right away. Thanks.

Respectfully submitted,



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